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Message Text

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60
ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 OES-02 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 RSC-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /051 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:WEATON:LOF
APPROVED BY AF/S - AARENALES
PM/ISO - MRDWORKEN
SCI - JLBLOOM (SUBS)
AF/EPS - RBLOMBARDI (SUBS)
AF - JWFOLEY (SUBS)
---------- 130860
P R 252322Z OCT 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SF
SUBJECT: PRESS QUESTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA

REFERENCE: LUSAKA 2208 (NOTAL)
FOR EASUM
1. RE PARA 1 REFTEL WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING RESPONSES: A) URANIUM - THE U.S. HAS NOT IMPORTED URANIUM (OXIDE OR COMPOUNDS) FROM SOUTH AFRICA (INCLUDING NAMIBIA) FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION SINCE 1965. (FOREIGN URANIUM EMBARGOED FOR IMPORTATION INTO THE U.S. HOWEVER SOME URANIUM FROM SOUTH AFRICA IS IMPORTED INTO THE U.S. FOR ENRICHMENT PURPOSES AND THEN RE-EXPORTED.). SOME U.S.G. EXPERTS BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT SA WILL BE AN IMPORTANT SUPPLIER OF URANIUM FOR U.S. CONSUMPTION STARTING IN THE 1980'S. B) DIAMONDS - ALTHOUGH THE U.S. IMPORTED DIRECTLY FROM SOUTH AFRICA ONLY
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3.1 MILLION OUT OF A TOTAL 18.8 MILLION CARATS OF DIAMONDS

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(GEM AND INDUSTRIAL) IN 1973, ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF SOUTH AFRICAN ORIGIN DIAMONDS WERE IMPORTED FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. ZAIRE IS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS. C) GOLD - NO DIRECT IMPORTS OF GOLD ORE, METAL OR COMPOUNDS INTO THE U.S. FROM SOUTH AFRICA IN 1973. HOWEVER, SOUTH AFRICA PRODUCES ABOUT 75 PERCENT OF THP FREE WORLD'S SUPPLY OF GOLD.

2. LATEST SITREP ON AUTHORIZATION BILL FOR UPGRADING FACILITIES ON DIEGO GARCIA IS CONTAINED IN STATE 225336.

SUGGEST YOU DRAW ON SUBSTANCE OF STATE 225336 TO ANSWER PRESS QUESTIONS, NOTING THAT MILCON AUTHORIZATION BILL IN CONFERENCE (AND INFO WE HAVE ON CONFEREE DELIBERATIONS IS PRIVILEGED). WE ANTICIPATE THAT CONFERENCE (AND CONGRESS) WILL RECONVENE AFTER NOV 17. ADDITIONAL PRESS GUIDANCE ON DIEGO GARCIA ISSUE IS CONTAINED IN CABLES ON PRESIDENT'S NEWS CONFERENCE (STATE 190672, 189419) AND DCI COLBY'S TESTIMONY (A-6343 OF AUGUST 9, 1974). ALL REFERENCED MESSAGES HAVE BEEN SENT BLANTYRE, DAR ES SALAAM AND LUSAKA. INGERSOLL

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